

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 02617 041213 Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
----- 103533

R 041144 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8116

S E C R E T ROME 2617

EXDIS NOFORN

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3 DECLAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE DATE BY DCM
TAGS: PFOR LY US IT
SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA:
POSSIBILITY OF ITALY' S BECOMING PROTECTING POWER.

REF: STATE 060653

1. WE BELIEVE THAT ITALIANS WOULD AGREE TO BECOME PROTECTING POWER FOR U. S. INTERESTS IN LIBYA, SHOULD BREAK IN RELATIONS OCCUR. WE BELIEVE ITALIANS WOULD FIND ACCEPTABLE EITHER U. S.- STAFFED INTERESTS SECTION UNDER ITALIAN FLAG, OR ASSIGNMENT OF ITALIAN DIPLOMATIC OFFICER SPECIFICALLY CHARGED WITH PROTECTION OF U. S. INTERESTS SHOULD LIBYA DEMAND DEPARTURE OF ALL AMERICAN PERSONNEL. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ITALIANS HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE WITH BOTH TYPES OF OPERATION, CURRENTLY AS PORTECTOR OF U. S. INTERESTS IN SYRIA AND PREVIOUSLY IN YEMEN.

2. IN MAKING ABOVE ASSESSMENT, EMBASSY HAS ALSO CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY THAT EVENT PRECIPITATING BREAK MIGHT BE CLAMOROUS AND ACRIMONIOUS. WE ARE WELL AWARE THAT ITALIAN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA ARE VERY SENSITIVE AND GOI HAS PATIENTLY PUT UP WITH A SERIES OF LIBYAN AFFRONTs, MOST SERIOUS OF WHICH WAS EXPULSION OF ITALIAN COMMUNITY, WHILE TURNING OTHER CHEEK TO BUILD VIABLE LONG- TERM RELATIONSHIP. ITALIANS' STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL (PETROLEUM AND TRADE) AND GROWING ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH LIBYA ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO GOI. THESE ELEMENTS WOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BY ITALIANS IN REACHING DECISION ON BECOMING PROTECTING POWER. THIS DECISION COULD VERY WELL CAUSE ITALIANS CONSIDERABLE DISCOMFORT BUT IF WE PUT OUR REQUEST STRONGLY IN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 02617 041213 Z

TERMS OF US/ ITALIAN SOLIDARITY THEN WE EXPECT ITALIANS WOULD
UNDERTAKE THIS TASK. THEY HAVE STRONG SENSE OF OBLIGATION AS
RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. VOLPE

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME02617
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730433/aaaahpib.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, NOFORN
Reference: 73 STATE 060653
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971125
Subject: CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA: POSSIBILITY OF ITALY'S BECOMING PROTECTING POWER.
TAGS: PFOR, IT, LY, US, n/a
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005